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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/050,596	01/15/2002	Lawrence J. Putz	1801	6598

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EXAMINER

HWU, DAVIS D

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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3752

DATE MAILED: 05/10/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/050,596

Applicant(s)

PUTZ, LAWRENCE J.

Examiner

Davis D. Hwu

Art Unit

3752

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 15 January 2002.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-38 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-8, 10, 12-21, 23-28, 30-33 and 35-38 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☒ Claim(s) 9, 11, 22, 29 and 34 is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
- ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 - ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 - ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: _____

DETAILED ACTION

1. This prosecution of the application is re-opened as a result of the withdrawal from issue of August 8, 2003.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

2. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

3. Claims 1-5, 7, 10, 12-20, 23-27, 30-32, and 38 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Smith.

The patent to Smith shows a piece of jewelry adapted to receive a quantity of a fragrance producing composition that includes a fragrance emitting substance in a carrier liquid comprising a securement member 14 adapted to releasably secure to a portion of one's body or clothing, a setting 2 supported by the securement member, and a piece of porous material having sufficient porosity to permit penetration thereof by the carrier liquid and the fragrance emitting substance and including a top surface and a bottom surface opposite the top surface, the piece affixed to the setting at an orientation relative the securement member such that ambient air can flow about at least a portion of both the top and the bottom surfaces. The setting includes a plurality of stanchions 5 secured thereto in which prongs are formed as extension of the stanchions as recited in claims 2 and 3 and wherein the setting is a bezel as recited in claim 4. Regarding claim 12, the device of Smith also shows the setting including a base 2 on which the plurality

of stanchions are secured and a collet 4 as recited. The device of Smith is capable of carrying out the methods as recited since the porous material is accessible upon removing cap member 3.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

4. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

5. Claims 6 and 35-37 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Smith.

The piece of porous material being a sphere is an obvious matter of design choice since such a modification would have involved a mere change in the shape of a component which is generally recognized as being within the level of ordinary skill in the art. The method steps recited in claims 35-37 are obvious matters of user preferences.

6. Claims 8, 21, 28, and 33 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Smith in view of Muhmel et al. (DE 197 53 956).

Muhmel et al. teach a scent cartridge comprising ceramic which contains sintered aluminum oxide. It would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to have modified the device of Smith by replacing the porous material with a porous material containing sintered aluminum oxide as taught by Muhmel et al. since Muhmel et al. teaches that such arrangements provide for an inexpensive and easily manufactured device.

Allowable Subject Matter

7. Claims 9, 11, 22, 29, and 34 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

Conclusion

8. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure. The patents to Tokunaga, Black, and Hartmann are pertinent to Applicant's invention.

9. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Davis D. Hwu whose telephone number is 571-272-4904. The examiner can normally be reached on 8:00-4:30. If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Dave Scherbel can be reached on 571-272-4919. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306. Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>.



Davis Hwu

DAVIS HWU
PRIMARY EXAMINER